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(San Diego)

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Benefit in CIA grant

IT MAY BE indicative of the times that officials of Children's Hospital were put on the defensive in explaining a research program funded by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Revelations of CIA experiments with mind-altering drugs involving unsuspecting participants shocked the nation recently.

But the San Diego study, which includes brain-wave analysis of perception responses among volunteer subjects, can be helpful in establishing the connection between perceptual deficiencies and learning disability in youngsters.

The CIA supports the research with annual grants of \$100,000 which began in 1975. The hospital

was the site of early research into perception research.

The hospital, in making the program and funding source public, acknowledged the potential for public suspicion of CIA motives. Spokesmen also conceded the possibility of the CIA having its own objectives in the research.

But the hospital is focusing on the "learning aspects." By rejecting secrecy, it keeps the door open for productive, honest research.